

### How often is this training required?

Class A and B Operators are required to be trained only one time, but refresher training is encouraged. Class C Operators should be briefed on procedures annually.

When a facility is found to be out of compliance, the DNR may require the owner to re-train the designated UST system Class A, B or C Operator under a plan approved by the DNR. The training must occur within 60 days from the DNR notice for Class A & B Operators and 15 days for Class C Operators.

### What is required of a trained operator?

Once an operator has been trained to fulfill the duties for his or her assigned class they will have particular requirements to meet. These requirements can be found in 135.4(6) for each class of operator.

Owners shall ensure that at least one trained operator, whether Class A, B, or C, is on-site whenever the business is open and fuel is being dispensed. Unstaffed or keytrol facilities do not have to have a trained operator present at all times as long as they have a trained and designated Class A & B Operators.

### What if an operator transfers to another store or was trained in another state?

Class A & B Operators may transfer to other UST facilities in Iowa provided the Class A or B Operator is properly designated. The DNR may waive the training course for operators upon a showing of successful completion of a training course and exam approved by another state.



For More Information contact:

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Underground Storage Tanks Section  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

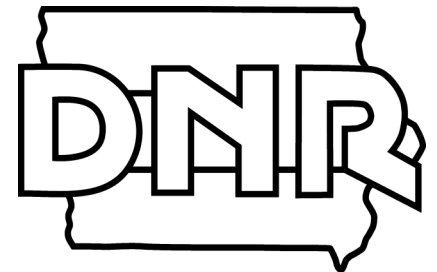
Paul Nelson: 515-281-8779  
Paul.Nelson@dnr.iowa.gov

Tom Collins: 515-281-8879  
Tom.Collins@dnr.iowa.gov

Fax: 515-281-8895

## OPERATOR TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK SYSTEMS

December, 2009



Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Underground Storage Tanks Section  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Tel: 515-281-8941  
Fax: 515-284-8895

[www.iowadnr.gov/land/ust/index.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/land/ust/index.html)

# UST OPERATOR TRAINING IS COMING TO IOWA

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## What is Operator Training?

On October 14, 2009 new operator training requirements for owners of underground storage tank systems in Iowa took effect. The operator training rules can be found in 567-135.4 (6), Iowa Administrative Code (IAC), which may be viewed on the UST Section's webpage at [www.iowadnr.gov/land/ust/index.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/land/ust/index.html).

Operator training requires owners and/or their designated employees to undergo training to become UST operators. The type of training an operator receives depends on the operator class they intend to fulfill at their facilities. There are three different classes of operators:

1. **Class A Operator** – has overall responsibility for the facilities assigned to them, is knowledgeable of statutory & regulatory requirements, and maintains appropriate records. This class of operator is usually an owner or an environmental manager for a company with multiple facilities.
2. **Class B Operator** – implements the day-to-day aspects of UST operations, maintenance and record keeping according to regulatory requirements. This class of operator monitors the status of UST system leak detection.
3. **Class C Operator** – is an employee whose primary responsibility is emergency response. The Class C Operator will be trained by either the Class A or B Operator of the facility. Owners can train and designate as many employees as they want

for this class for a particular facility. This class of operator is typically a sales clerk behind the counter at the convenience store and must be trained in how to respond to spills, overfills, alarms and other emergencies related to their specific UST systems.

Owners have the option of hiring third party contractors to designate as trained operators as long as the contractors have successfully completed the training described rule.

Owners may designate either themselves or their employees for multiple operator classes. For instance, if an owner of a single facility has only one employee, the owner may designate him or herself as both the Class A & B Operator of the facility. The owner would then train the employee as a Class C Operator for the facility. A Class C Operator must be on site during all hours of operation.

## Deadlines for Operator Training

All owners of existing storage tank systems regulated under Chapter 135 must designate trained operators for each facility by December 31, 2011. This deadline provides two years for owners and operators to be trained, but, as with other deadlines, don't wait until the last minute.

By April 14, 2010, Class C Operators must be provided with written basic operating instructions, emergency contact names and phone numbers and basic procedures spe-

cific to the facility e.g., what to do in case of an alarm, spill, overfill or emergency condition. These instructions must be readily available at all times to the Class C Operator. This is a simple and effective requirement to address emergency conditions that should have immediate and positive results.

## Where do I get this training?

Operator training will be provided by third party companies, not by the State. Some companies may want to provide in-house training. Internet-based training is also an acceptable training format for all classes of operators.

All training programs must be preapproved by the Iowa DNR, UST Section. Any company wishing to become an approved trainer must follow the requirements in 135.4(8). A factsheet for operator training providers is available on the UST Section website. The UST Section will accept applications for operator training providers starting October 14, 2009.

## Owners are responsible for all costs associated with Operator Training.

A list of approved trainers will be posted on the UST Section's website as they become available. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the UST Section and ask about a list of UST operator training providers.